

Application Process:

The City of Albuquerque Public Art Program is conducting this application and selection process from a dedicated email address, specifically controlled by the Public Art Program. This email process requires that all application images and materials be submitted in digital format.

All submissions must be received at the following email address or in the Public Art Program offices by: **April 30, 2010 at 5:00 p.m. MST**

Send electronic submissions to:
publicart@cabq.gov
Subject Line: **Balloon Museum Land Art**

Non-Email Submissions:
**Department of Municipal Development
CIP Public Art Program, Attn: Matt Carter
P.O. Box 1293
Room 304, 3rd Floor
Albuquerque, NM 87103**

PROSPECTUS | Request for Qualifications

To Commission of a Work of Land Art for the Anderson-Abruzzo International Balloon Museum

LOCATION/CONTEXT:

The Albuquerque Arts Board in partnership with New Mexico Arts, Art in Public Places program announces a national 1% for Art project RFQ. The site is located at the Anderson Abruzzo International Balloon Museum and adjacent to the Balloon Fiesta Park, located at 9201 Balloon Museum Drive NE, Albuquerque, NM. The Balloon Museum site, the Balloon Fiesta grounds and the La Cueva storm drainage arroyo provides an opportunity to address multiple environmental elements. This public art project is expected to yield a thoughtfully integrated, Land Art-inspired, collaboratively developed site with multiple program elements. The project will meet both the mission of the Balloon Museum and the Public Art programs' goals to commission a large scale environmental public art project.

Museum Mission Statement: The mission of the Anderson-Abruzzo Albuquerque International Balloon Museum is to be the leading educational institution for engaging exhibitions and informative programs on the art, culture, history, science and sport of ballooning and other lighter-than-air craft.

The Museum encompasses an international, national and regional perspective demonstrating the global development of ballooning achievements through exhibitions, collections and programs designed for diverse audiences.

The Museum also showcases the adventurous spirit, endeavors and achievements of individual balloonists.

PROJECT INTENT/THEME:

The Balloon Museum Art Selection Committee with New Mexico Arts, Art in Public Places program seeks a permanent artwork situated within the yet to be developed overall site plan for the outdoor area connecting the Museum and the Fiesta Field. The final artwork will serve as an access point into the Balloon Museum, Balloon Fiesta Park and into Land Arts, an unprecedented genre in the City of Albuquerque Public Art Collection.

SITE:

Just north and immediately behind the **Anderson-Abruzzo Albuquerque International Balloon Museum** there are approximately 3 acres of land suitable for a permanent piece of artwork. The current site development includes concrete walkways surrounding the perimeter of the site leading towards Balloon Fiesta Park; landscaping that includes grass on the east end of property; and a black metal fence surrounding the overall site (see site photos attached).

The artist's scope will be two-fold:

- * To work with the city's architect and development team to help develop the over all site design that might include various elements identified in the attached Balloon Museum report and;
- * Design and construct an artwork that meets the project intent.

Consideration of the setting and the immediate environment will be a part of the artist's challenge to create a statement about the natural setting, the expanse of sky above, the Sandia Mountains to the east and the relationships to the Balloon Museum and adjacent Balloon Fiesta Park. The latter is home to the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta which, during the first two weeks of October, brings in approximately 750 balloonists who launch from the Balloon Fiesta Park. Close to 100,000 visitors daily take part in the 9 day event and experience Albuquerque's rich culture.

PROJECT FUNDS:

\$128,000 is available to commission a constructed and installed work of art for the Balloon Land Arts Project. The source of funds for this project is Albuquerque - 1% for Art – Storm G.O Bond Fund (\$80,000) and State of New Mexico Art, Art in Public Places funds (\$48,000).

If an Artist is selected for a Public Art project, whether as an individual or as a member of a team, and a contract for the project has been executed by the parties, the Artist is not eligible to apply, separately or jointly, for another Albuquerque Public Art project for a period of one year from the date of final execution of the contract.

**publicart@
cabq.gov**

QUESTIONS/FOLLOW

UP: Questions about the project may be directed to Matt Carter at the Albuquerque Public Art Program (505) 768-3804 or email: mcarter@cabq.gov

MEDIA/STYLE/SIZE: All material and design considerations for this project should follow sustainable and ecological principles. It is important that the artist carefully consider the local setting and weigh the long term impact that proposed media would have on the immediate environment. Permanent materials (stone, cement, metal) are acceptable, as are more ephemeral materials such as wood and plant matter. The life span of this work of art should be 15 years, at minimum. Power sources for the project should be derived from solar or wind sources only. The only water sources on the site are non-potable, recycled water with minimal access.

Deadline for Submitting Qualifications: April 30, 2010

ATTACHMENT: Site Plan, Site Photographs, Anderson-Abruzzo Albuquerque International Balloon Museum Board Subcommittee site recommendation report, the City of Albuquerque Water Conservation Policy.

APPLICATION/SELECTION PROCESS

This is a national, open competition RFQ for all artists and/or artist teams. The Artist Selection Committee reserves the right to select an artist from the initial submissions for the RFQ, or offer a stipend for preliminary design concepts from a set of finalist not to exceed 5. Stipend funds will not come out of the project budget listed herein if finalists are selected, and will be allocated commiserate to the finalist scope.

ELIGIBILITY:

This project is open to artist/artist teams residing in the United States.

SUBMISSION MATERIALS:

Artists must submit the following items for the project:

- A letter of intent, not to exceed two pages or 500 words, which may include a description of your ideas and the proposed media in which the artwork will be fabricated.
- Up to 20 (twenty) digital images of past work in Land Art, earthworks and/or works dealing with environmental concerns.
- An annotated image key, clearly labeled with your full name and a numerical listing for each image, the title of the work, the media, dimensions, and year of completion.
- A current resume including statements regarding your artwork/art education or CV. (If you are submitting as part of a team, please include separate resume and statements for each individual.)

All of these materials should be in electronic format: Please use a standard 'Word' format for all written documents. All images, drawings and diagrams should be created in a standard JPEG format (no larger than 8 X 10 at 300 DPI). Please do not use Power Point or slide show formats. Individual emails should not exceed 12 MB. If you send multiple emails to accommodate your submission, please label them in the subject area of your email with your last name and the sequence. (Example: Smith 1 of 3)

Site Photos | Anderson-Abruzzo International Balloon Museum



Facing south, facing museum



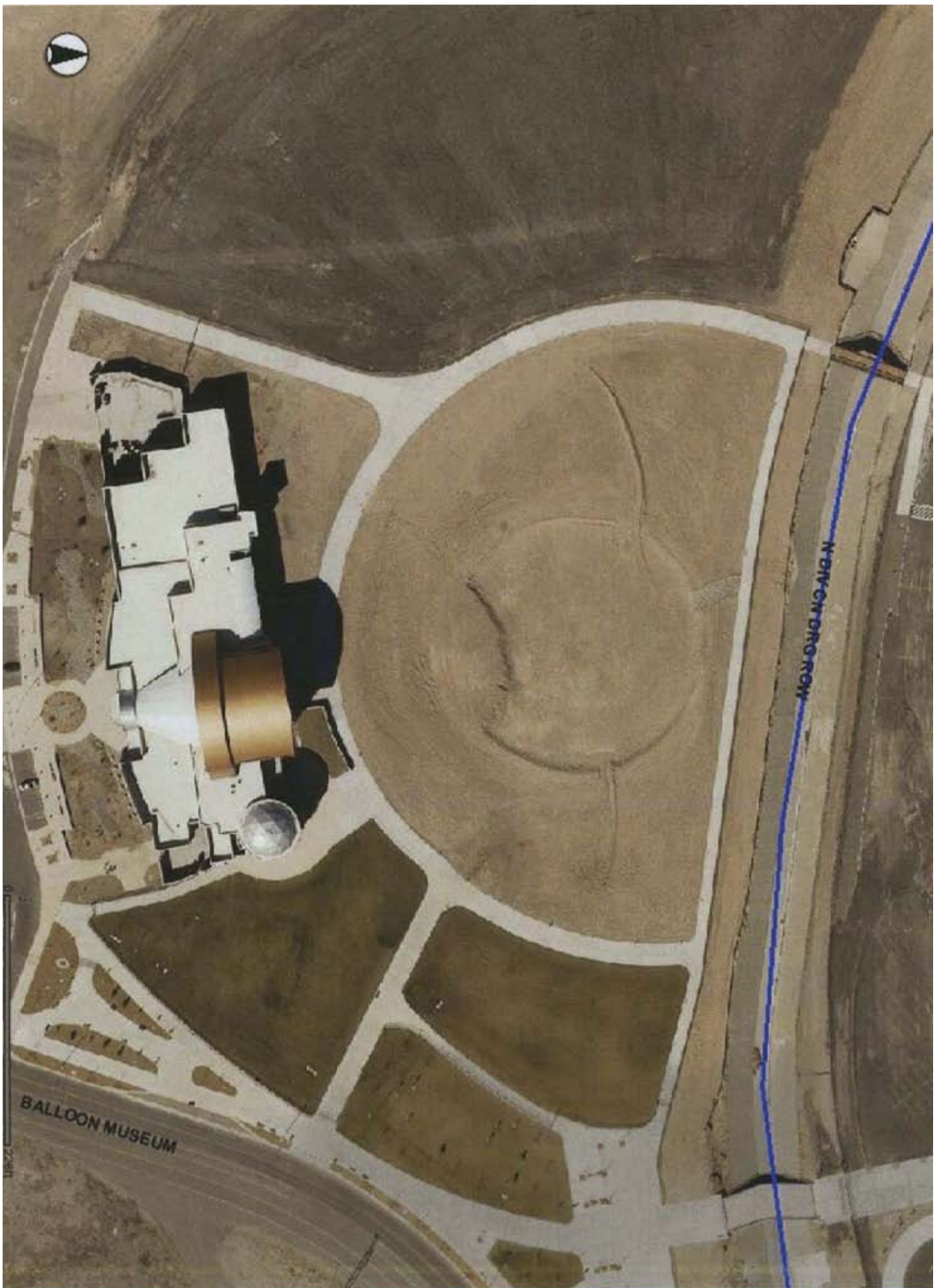
East side of site, facing north

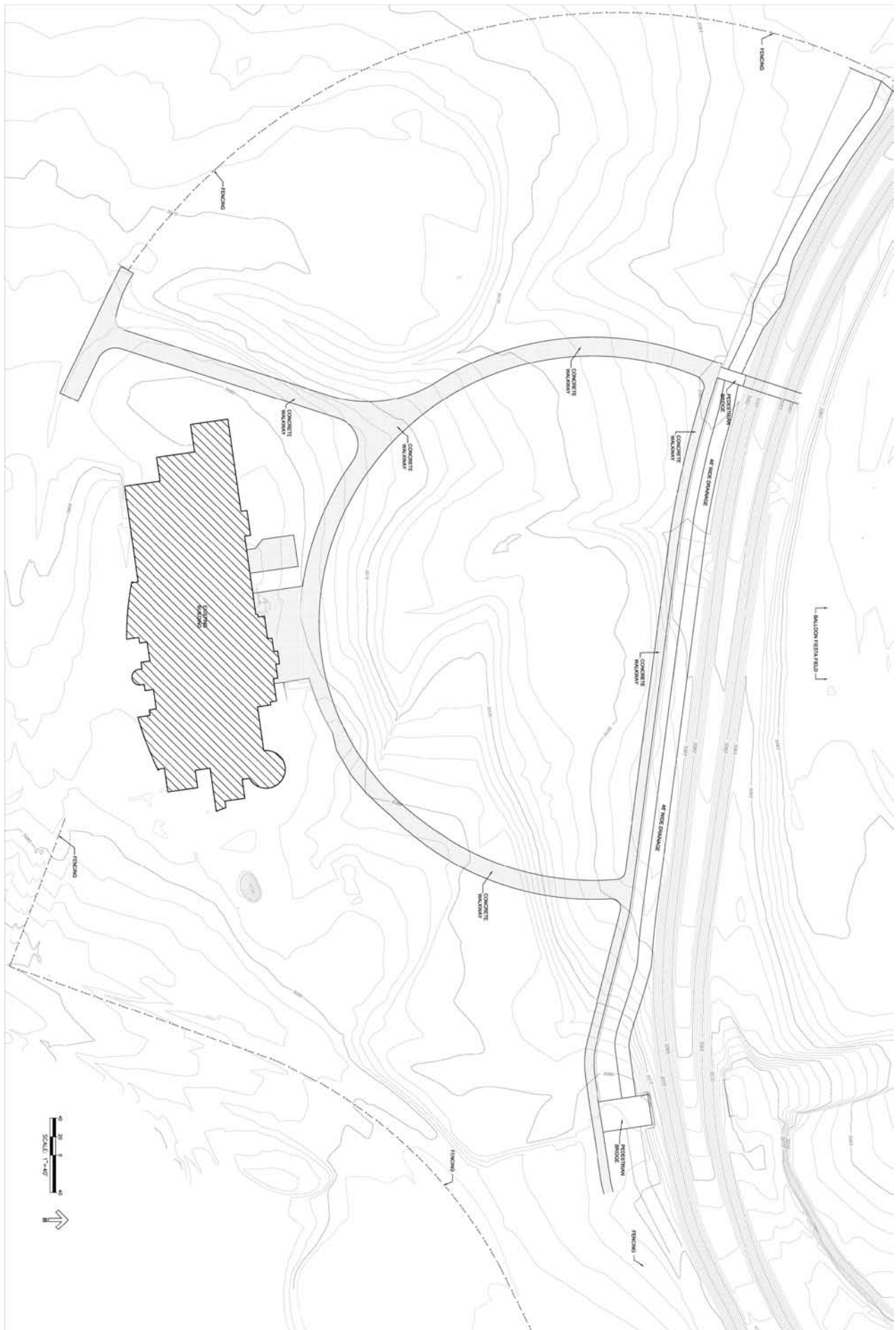


Center of site, facing north



West side of site, facing north





ANDERSON-ABRUZZO ALBUQUERQUE INTERNATIONAL BALLOON MUSEUM

Board Subcommittee on Major Projects: Landscape / Annex Recommendations

LONG-TERM GOALS:

North Side:

Create an integrated design of attractions and feature elements to maximize the flexibility and use of the space for revenue generation, programming, and leisure activities; visually enhance the museum grounds.

- ***Amphitheater and Performance Platform*** — Create sloping, irrigated cool season turf grass areas using non-potable water; provide open seating and a permanent hard surface area of concrete or stone with necessary electrical and lighting capabilities for public programming and revenue generating activities (e.g., concerts, parties, weddings, dance group and theatrical performances). Evaluate concept of integrating water element with performance platform.
- ***Children's Play Area*** — A dedicated area, perhaps near northwest corner of museum, with playground equipment, lighter-than-air-related sculptures / recreational elements (designed to allow children to safely climb on them), shade structures and seating / picnicking areas.
- ***Outdoor Exhibits*** — Recommended to bring the museum's focus on education and fun outdoors (e.g., commemorative wall, holograms, interactive displays). Programming concept, design, location and possible integration with other site elements requires further development.
- ***Restrooms and Drinking Fountains*** — Provide these amenities in proximity to outdoor activity spaces. Consider joint sharing space or common wall with annex if located on the north side of the museum.
- ***SimEx Attraction / Multipurpose Theater Annex*** — A building annex is recommended to house the ride / attraction. Considerations:
 - 1) A demographic / economic feasibility study is recommended to determine whether the annex should provide for both the 40-seat SimEx attraction and a multipurpose theater. The study will assess if the annex should include an additional 100-150+ seat meeting room with associated projection equipment and access to the SimEx attraction through a joint shared lobby with restrooms. The annex, with SimEx attraction only or with multipurpose theater, would be accessible to the public when the museum is closed.
 - 2) Design evaluation is needed to determine the annex location (north vs. south side of museum) and possible integration of the SimEx attraction, its ancillary equipment, a lobby area, a separate but connected multipurpose theater, and restrooms. If a southern site is chosen, separate restrooms will need to be built on the north side of the museum to provide for the children's play area and other scheduled events. If the annex is built on the north side of the museum, restrooms inside the museum will share a common wall and would be accessible from the outside area.
- ***Sculpture Garden*** — An attractive, even whimsical area featuring lighter-than-flight and related themed sculptures (e.g., balloons, airships, gondolas, Aeolian harp or other weather elements, human figures, etc.). This concept was discussed as desirable but several criteria still need to be addressed: location, size, utility requirements, and possible integration with other site elements (amphitheater, children's playground, outdoor exhibits, water elements).
- ***Water Elements*** — Council action prohibits the inclusion of a reflecting pool / pond. Recommended and preferred option: non-potable water element(s) such as fountains or streambeds integrated with other site features (e.g., Sculpture Garden, Amphitheater / Performance Platform). Recommended water elements to use recirculating water; no large areas of standing / ponded open surface water.

South Side:

Continue to pursue funding for landscape planning and development to renovate the front entry, per the 2007 design. This design may require modification by the collections south wall if it is determined the annex will be located on the south side of the museum.

SHORT-TERM GOALS:

Necessary to make areas usable for public programs, revenue generation and leisure activities: desirable NLT 09/10/08. (2008 Fiesta® begins October 2, 2008.)

North Side:

- ***Amphitheater / Performance Platform (Water Feature Area)***—Grade existing water feature (reflecting pool) area and remaining dirt areas, install necessary utilities and infrastructure to provide cool season turf grass irrigated with non-potable water across balance of the site. This improvement is viewed as an interim solution until other design criteria are resolved. Grassing the entire area will provide for dust control, enhance the museum's grounds, support program activities, and provide for revenue generating events.
- ***SimEx Attraction / Multipurpose Theater Annex:***
 - 1) Contact potential sources for demographic / economic feasibility study. Example: UNM graduate students, Anderson School of Business.
 - 2) Continue development of digital film (e.g., *Balloon Trek Across New Mexico*)
 - 3) Per contract with SimEx, obtain design criteria and information to help select site and define size / layout for the annex; determine shared spaces.

South Side:

- ***Maintenance (Current Landscape)***—Increase actions by museum maintenance personnel to control weeds and debris in rocked and native grass areas.
- ***New Landscape Development***—Encourage Balloon Museum Foundation to pursue donation by a private contractor to renovate some portion of the front entry. Center circle is top priority. Landscape development per the 2007 design can be phased per available funding.

2/28/08 r4